Decongesting city traffic in Karnataka

3592. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Karnataka Government have requested for special assistance for upgradation of 38 PWD Link/Arterial Roads, which are economically important, in Bangalore city for decongesting the city traffic;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether similar requests have been received from other State Governments;

(d) if so, the details in this regard and the amount sanction therefor; and

(e) the Central Government's response to the Karnataka's proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Karnataka Government has sought assistance for upgradation of 38 roads of economic importance around Bangalore in form of one time assistance amounting to Rs. 516.00 crore from Planning Commission.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Above 38 roads are not National Highways and as such State Government is primarily responsible for their development and maintenance. The Planning Commission has intimated that the proposal of Government of Karnataka has been examined by them but Additional Central Assistance (ACA) is not available for funding the said proposal. Planning Commission has further stated that State Government should explore the possibility of getting the same funded through National Urban Renewal Mission.

Funds allocated for repair of damaged NHs in Andhra Pradesh

3593. SHRIMATI N. P. DURGA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 14 National Highways have been damaged in Andhra Pradesh due to recent incessant rains and floods in 2005;

(b) the measures Government have taken to restore filling of pot holes, patch repairs, repair of cross drainage works, etc.;

(c) the amount that has been allocated and released for the repair of these 14 National Highways; and

(d) the details of amount released for repair of these roads, National Highway-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) Yes, Sir. There are 15 National Highways passing through the State of Andhra Pradesh. Some of the stretches of National Highways were damaged due to incessant rains and floods during 2005.

(b) The restoration works of damaged roads were carried out immediately by the State PWD and National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) soon after the rains to make the roads in traffic worthy condition.

(c) and (d) The funds for maintenance and repairs of National Highways are released for entire State in lump-sum and not National Highway-wise or work-wise. For the National Highways being developed and maintained by State PWD, a sum of Rs. 39.072 crore has been allocated and released during 2005-06. However, for National Highways with NHAI, an amount of Rs. 12.91 crore has been allocated of which Rs. 7.60 crore has been released so far.

For NH-5 and NH-9, constructured under Build Operate and Transfer (BOT)/BOT (Annuity) basis, restoration and maintenance were carried out by BOT Concessionaire.

Upgradation of roads in Uttaranchal

†3594. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total length of roads in kilometres upgraded to Highways in the State of Uttaranchal;

(b) the names of such roads which have been upgraded to highways;

(c) the amount so far spent on the roads declared as highways;

(d) whether Government have received any complaints that most of these highways are deplorable; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) and (b) Length of roads upgraded as National Highways in the State of Uttaranchal along with their names is given in a statement enclosed.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.